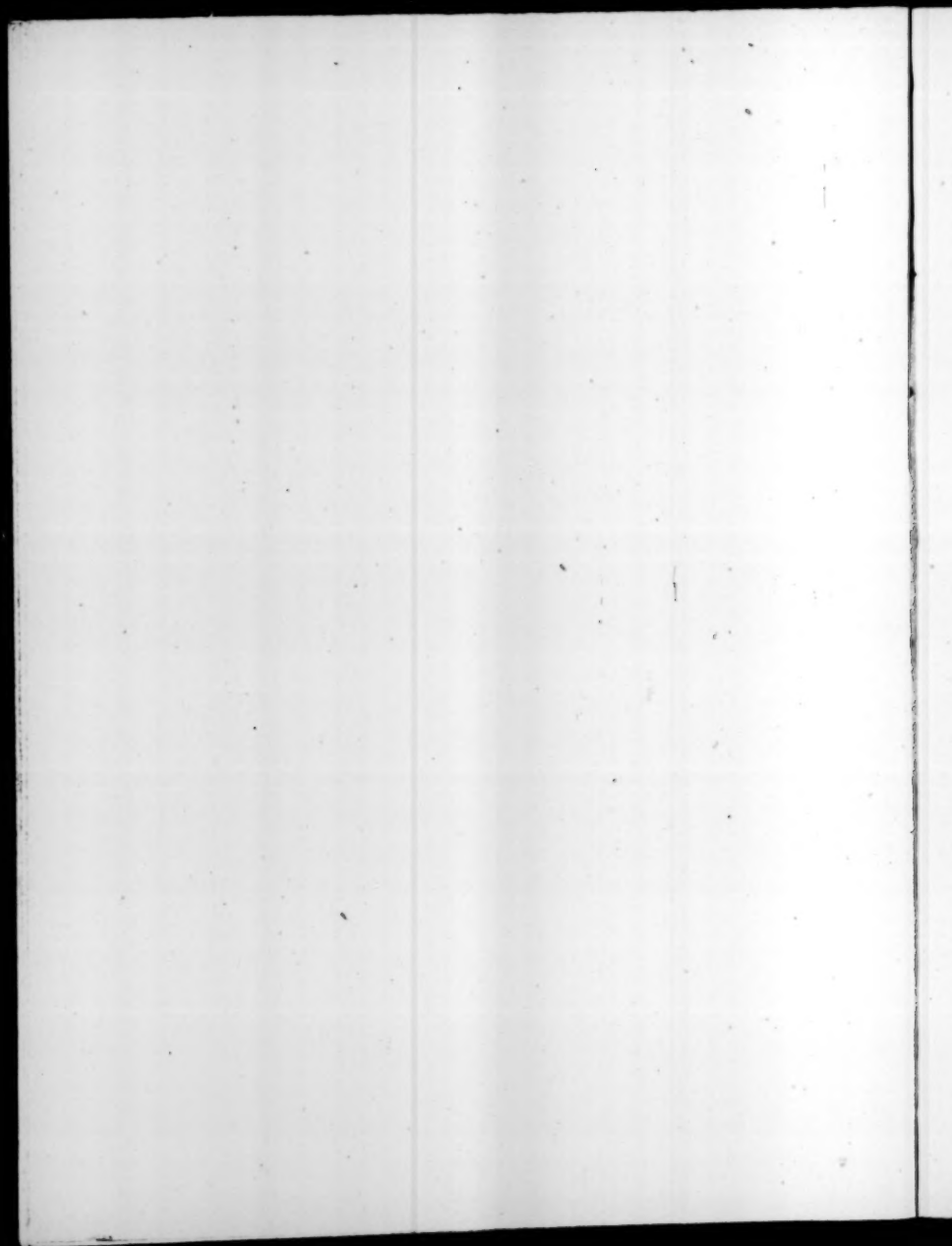


A DISCOVRSE  
 concerninge the Spanishe fleet  
 inuadinge Englande in the yeare 1588 and  
 ouerthrowne by her Ma<sup>ties</sup> Nauie vnder the  
 conduction of the Right-honorable the Lorde  
 Charles Howarde highe Admirall of Englande  
 written in Italian by Petruccio Baldino ci-  
 tizen of Florence, and translated for A. Ryther  
 vnto the w<sup>th</sup> discourse are annexed certaine  
 tables expresseing the seuerall exploits,  
 and conflictes had with the  
 said fleet.

THESE bookes with the titles shewinge to  
 them are to be solde at the shoppe of A. Ryther  
 beinge a little  
 hall next to  
 the  
 Tower.







TO THE RIGHT  
HONORABLE, CHARLES,  
LORD HOWARD, BARON OF  
EFFINGHAM, KNIGHT OF THE MOST  
NOBLE ORDER OF THE GARTER, LORD  
high Admirall of England, and one of hir Ma-  
iesties most Honorable priuie Councell :

A. R. wilheth long life in perfect  
health, with great in-  
crease of ho-  
nor.



AM BOLD, RIGHT  
Honorab<sup>le</sup>, to present  
this booke vnto you &  
to craue your fauora-  
ble patronage therein,  
bicause there are many  
reasons which mooue  
me so to do . First, the

subiect matter of the booke, which is your selfe  
esp<sup>eci</sup>ally, and the rest of the leaders, vnder  
whose happie conduction hir Maiesties nauie  
preuailed against the Spanish fleete. Second-

A ly,

## THE EPISTLE

ly, the time, which I haue spent in the grauing of the feuerall Tables belonging to the booke, whereby the reader shall haue not onely the report, but the sight as it were of what notable thing foeuer was performed by your Honor in that high and honorable seruice. Thirdly, the booke it selfe, which as it hath beene kept backe these two yeeres almost from our men in an vnknown toong, so (as I gesse) it had lien hid for euer, had not the good foreseeene giuen iust occasion of the publihing thereof. Last of all, the time it selfe doth mooue to that which I haue done, which being the beginning of the new year, calleth for by custome a NEW YEERES GIFT, that is, as I construe it, a signe as abilitie permitteth, of that dutiful thankfulness, which I acknowledge my selfe to owe vnto your Honor. The which my thankfulness, because I had none other more conuenient signe, I was inforced to shew in presenting you this booke. Forsomuch therefore as it is now come abroad to the view of the world, translated and printed at my cost, I was moued by the reasons aforesaid, to craue your Honors patronage, that thereby I might the better

ter

## DEDICATORIE.

ter withstand, both the malicious tooongs of  
such as carpe, and the manifest iniurie of such  
as are readie vnaduisedly to counterfet ano-  
ther mans worke : The which your Lordships  
fauor obtained(as my hope is)shall binde  
me for euer to praie for your Ho-  
nors daily increafe in all  
good things.

Your H O N O R S

most humble,

A. RYTHER.

## To the Reader.

*Who list to heare and see what God hath donne  
For vs, our realme, and Queene against our foe,  
Owr foe the Spaniard proud, let him o'rerrun  
This little booke, and he the truth shall know:  
The place, the time, the means expressed be  
In booke to read, in grauen maps to see.*

*Which when you read, and see, retaine this thought,  
That howso'e're the meane deserved well,  
T'was chiefly God against our foe that fought,  
And sent them quicke through middest of sea to hell.  
Whether both quicke, and thicke let them go downe,  
That seeke to alienate the title of our crowne.*

T. H

## To the Reader.



could haue wished curteous reader, that this booke with the tables belonging thereto, might haue come to thine hands immediatlie after the repulse of the Spanish flecte, but seeing it could not be so, I must count it better late then neuer. Though it come somewhat late, I doubt not but it will breed some pleasure, because the remembrance of pleasures passed are alwaies delightfome. If in the grauen tables there be any thing which doth not please thee in regard of the worke, I craue pardon for it, because I count my selfe as yet but a yong beginner, do but yet strue to attaine to that excellencie, which I wish for. In the booke it selfe the truth of euery thing is set downe so neare as might be, and therefore it is so much the more to be regarded, being also by my friend translated faithfully, onely the Italian flourishes were here and there omitted, because in our English toong they could not sound well without suspicion of flatterie. Farewell.

Thine A. Ryther.

A DISCOVRSE CONCERNING I  
THE SPANISH FLEETE, INVADING  
ENGLAND IN THE YEERE 1588.

ouerthrowen by hir Maiesties naue, vnder  
the conduction of the Right honorable the L.

CHARLES HOWARD being high

*Admirall of England, written in*

*Italian by Petruccio Vbaldino*

*citizen of Florence.*

**T**HE Quenes Maiestie hauing di-  
uerse waies vnderstood the great and  
diligent preparation of the king of  
Spaine, in diuerse parts both by  
land and sea, not only of the strongest  
ships of all places within his domi-  
nions: but also of all sorts of proui-  
sion and munition necessarie for a  
mightie fleet, which was to come from Spaine and Portu-  
gall (for the furnishing and better direction wherof he had  
drawen together into the places aforesaid, the most princi-  
pall and ancient captaines and soldiers, as well of the king-  
doms of Naples and Sicilie, as of Lombardie and other  
parts of Italie, and the more remote parts of India, as by  
euery one was long before verie euidently perceiued, by  
reason that the preparation of these things together with  
the number of the ships, mariners and soldiors, the diuerse  
sorts and quantities of victuall, the great number and di-  
uers kinds of artillery, with the sum of euery seueral kind,  
were sufficiently specified vnto all countries by certaine  
pamphlets, laing forth at large his whole intent: the  
which pamphlets were printed and published in Spaine  
and Portugall, and other prouinces of Christendome, with  
this title; The most puissant and most happie fleet of  
the king of Spayne, against the Realme of England:) Her  
maiestie, I say, hauing in this maner receiued so open  
and manifest information hereof, as also certaine intelli-  
gence

## The inuasion of England

gence of horsemen and footemen sent in so great number, that they were sufficient for the furnishing of diuerse camps in the lowe Countries, vnder the gouernment of the duke of Parma his lieutenant generall for those prouinces, & withall knowing the multitude of the ships of war, and the possibilitie that the said king had to transport his soldiers out of flanders, and land them in England, not sparing to giue out thereupon open and free report, that all that prouision was for the inuasion and conquest of England: And forsomuch also as at the same time the king himselfe by means of his aforesaid Generall the duke of Parma, pretended a certaine treatie of peace to be made with her Maiestie (albeit this offer was in truth knowne in England, not to haue bene made but onely to take advantage of the time, and to make her Maiesty negligent in preparing for her defence, although she notwithstanding desirous openly to declare her good inclinatio vnto that, which is a iust & christian commendation in a prudent Princeesse) refused not in any point this treatie & offer of peace, greatly desired of all christian people: and therefore for that purpose gaue commandement to certaine noble men of her priue Counsell & others, with certain Gouernors of her forces in flanders, to deale in this matter with the commissioners that should be there appointed in the name and behalfe of the said king: And our commissioners after their departure and manifest declaration that they began to parle to some purpose concerning this treatie, being diuinen off a long time to small effect, and without any manifest hope of agreement likely to ensue, vntill such time as the Spanish fleet was not onely discovered in the English chancell, but also withheld and bideled from their purpose in ioyning with the forces of the duke of Parma, and transporting an armie into England: and finally vntill such time as it was enforced to withdraw it selfe and seeke some better fortune in the northen seas, being euery where else unable to make anie forceable resistance: Wherefore her Maiestie

iestie as well to declare her propense readines, if on their part any sincere intent of peace had bene, as her vigilat pꝛouidence not to be deluded by so subtil and malicious an enimie, furnished her selfe by sea with a mightie flecte, and by land with no lesse diligence to resist so great forces as by all nations were repoꝛted to come against her: fꝛoꝛ it was neuer knowne in the memoꝛie of man, that so great pꝛepaꝛation was euer heretofore at one time made out, either by king Phillip himselfe, oꝛ yet by the emperoꝛ Charles the 5. his father, although his power were much moꝛe and his occasions of warre far greater.

The diligence therefore of the Englishmen, answerable vnto the care of the Prince, was such and so great, that her Maiestie was pꝛouided of a mightie flecte to defend her by sea from the enimie, betwene the first of Nouember 1587. and the 20. of December next ensuing, a time in truth very shoꝛt fꝛoꝛ such a pꝛouision, in regard of so many yeeres spent by the said king in pꝛeparing of his flecte, which notwithstanding shew of what force it was by experience afterwards made thereof against the English nauie, gathered together within 50. daies, and pꝛouided and most excellentlie furnished of all things necessarie fꝛoꝛ such a purpose. The care & charge of this nauie was commended vnto the right honorable Charles L. Howard, Baron of Effingham, L. High Admiral of England, who fꝛoꝛ his place & office, noble courage, experience in martiall affaires, and nobilitie of blood and descent, was thought most fit & woꝛthy to be employed in that seruice. He had in his companie a sufficient number of honorable, woꝛshipful, and valiant personages, famous both in respect of their birth & the gifts of mind, desirous to serue their Prince and Countrie in such a cause as this, being iudged of the whole English nation both iust and necessarie: likewise of sea-faring men and pꝛiuate soldiers so competent a number, as might be answerable vnto the power of so great a Prince in so weightie a cause. The L. High Admirall therefore with these forces keeping fꝛoꝛ a

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season the narrow seas and chanell betwene England and Flaunders, sir Francis Drake knight, mentioned here also in hono<sup>r</sup> of his god deserts, was by the aduice of the Lords of the counsell & his hono<sup>r</sup>: so commanding it, sent towards the west parts with certaine of the Quenes ships and others from certaine ports of England thereabout, being in al not aboute the number of 50. saile of all sorts, there to attend the L. high Admirall his coming with greater forces, if occasion should so require. In the meane season the L. Admirall with his Viceadmirall the L. Henrie Seymer, kept the narrow seas, accompanied with 20. ships more, verie well furnished at the charges of the citizens of London, besides manie other from diuerse parts on that side of the Realme, that lieth from the towne of Douer by to the northward, which met all together in good order, and well appointed for the warres.

And here the Lord Admirall vnderstanding for a certaintie, that the flete of the enemye was already lanchd and at the sea, he weighed ancre, and leauing the L. Seymer with sufficient forces of the Quenes ships and other vessels to watch what the duke of Parma would do, or was able to undertake by sea, and parting from thence the 21. of Maie 1588. to the westward with her Maiesties nauie, and 20. ships of London, with some others, he arrived at Plymouth the 23. of the same Moneth: where sir Francis Drake with 50. saile which he had vnder his charge, met with the L. Admirall in very good order. And then the two nauies being ioyned together into one, the L. Admirall made sir Francis Drake his Viceadmirall.

Arriuig then at Plymouth, his Lordship presently gaue order for prouision of victuall for the whole nauie, that it might want nothing, that should tend to the necessarie seruice ensuing. The whole nauie was at this present about 90. saile of all sorts.

This prouision being complet, he resolued with himselfe to put forth to the sea againe about the 30. of Maie aforesaid.



said. But the winde not seruing his turne, he kept himselfe abroad, sailing by and downe within the Slaue betwene Ashant and Sillie, attending some sight or report of the enemies fleet. Where hauing waited a certain time, som- whyles drawing neare to the coast of France, & somtimes to the coast of England, he returned, being thereto enforced by a great tempest, with his whole nauie into the Port of Plymouth the 6. of June to refresh his companie there.

In the meane season there were discovered betwæne Ashant and Sillie certaine ships of the Spanish fleet, not about the number of 14. which were knowen to be seuered from the whole fleet by violence of the aforesaid tempest. But before they could be encountred withall by any of the English nauie, the wind came about, whereby they had opportunitie to returne backe againe, sauing themselves from all perils in their haven called the Groine, into the which also the rest of the Spanish fleet was put to provide themselves anew of other things which they wanted, and specially of fresh water. Of this thing the L. Admirall had intelligence and aduertisement from sundry parts, as also that the Spanish fleet was by great fortune dispersed & seuered into diuers places, through penurie of many and those necessarie things, through diseases and mortalitie of men, although the report hereof could not afterwards be verified, whereof the certain truth was, that being troubled with tempest, they were commanded to come a shoare at the Groyne.

The L. Admirall therefore seeing the coast of England and France cleare and free from all danger, as by diligent search it was vnderstood, resolved by the aduise and opinion of his counsell, to take the aduantage of the next wind that should blow from the North, that passing to the coast of Spaine he might finde the enemies fleet so dispersed in the Groine, and in other parts of Galitia where they had be- lieuen by the storme.

This was put in execution betwæne the 8. and 10. of the

the same moneth, the wind being then at the North, which within a while changing vnto the South, after that he was come within 40. leagues or there about of the coast of Spaine, made him to cast a doubt of that which after wards hapned indeed. For laying this befoze him as his principall care, according to the charge laid vpon him by her Maiesty, to be diligent and carefull for the defence of the coast of England, and considering that with the wind which was now changed and very good to make for England, the enemy might set out and passe for England without discovery of his fleet, he returned back with the whole nauy, and the 12. of the same moneth he arriued at Plymouth, there accordingly to prouide himselfe of all that was necessarie.

As appeereth  
in the 1. table.

As appeereth  
in the 2. table.

The 19. of June his honor had intelligence by a barke or pinnis, whose captaine was Thomas Fleming, amongst other behinde him in the Slaue for discouerie, that the Spanishe fleet was discovered neare vnto the Lizard, the wind being then South and by West. And therefore albeit that by reason of the great number of English ships which were in Plymouth, it was with that winde very hard to bring them forth from thence (as the militarie art of the Sea and the condition of their affaires required) yet was there such diligence vsed by the L. Admirall and the rest by his example, as they indeuored therein with such aduise and earnestnes, that many of the ships at the length warped out of the haven, as if the winde had ben wholly fauourable vnto them: which thing could not haue fallen out but through the long and certaine skill which the English Masters generally haue in marine discipline. To the which reason this may be added, that they were all of one nation, of one tongue, and touched with a greiuous and equal hatred toward their enemies, being mightily perswaded of their forces. Whereupon we may in such cases assure our selues of what importance it is in seafaring matters, for a fleet of any prince whatsoeuer, inuading any foraine state or kingdome, to encounter with a fleet ready for defense in such

such maner as the English naue was, for so much as the fleet invading being prouided diuersly of Masters and Officers differing one from another in custome, language, and conceit, cannot in any measure giue any assured hope of certain victorie, how honorable soeuer the commander be. Many of the ships therefore came forth, by reason that the men were moued in the foresaid respects to laboꝝ diligently, and so much the rather, by how much the captaines and chiefe officers both by counsel and hand, shewed themselues more diligent and industrious.

By these meanes the 20. day of June the L. Admirall accompanied with 54. ships, came forth with the same winde that the enemy had from the south west: Which thing certainly was not esteemed a small thing to be done, in regarde aswell of the winde as of the narrownes of the place it selfe.

The Spanish fleet being manifestly discouered about 140. miles from CedeStone, and clearly scene of every one toward the west, and so far off from foꝛe as the English fleet was, that is 25. ordinarie English miles: the next morning being the 21. of June, all the ships which were now come out of the hauen, had gotten the winde of the Spaniards, and approaching somewhat nearer, found that their fleet was placed in battell araic, after the maner of a Pone cressant, being readie with her hozns & hir inward circumference to receiue either all, oꝝ so manie of the English naue, as should giue her the assault, her hoznes being extended in widenes about the distance of 8. miles, if the information giuen haue not deceiued my pen. The reason of their arraunging in this order, arose vpon the foresight of the Duke of Medina Sidonia general of the Spanish fleet, who approaching the coast, sent out a smal ship to espy somewhat concerning the English fleet, and hearing by certain fishermen taken prisoners, that our fleet was in Plymouth, he prepared himselfe as aforesaid, for the auoiding of all such chances as might after befall. Whereupon about 9. of the

the clocke befoze none the L. Admirall commanded his Pinnesse called the Disoaine, to giue the defiance vnto the duke of Medina : after which he himselfe in the Quænes Ship called the Arcke went foremost, as was conuenient, and began hotlie to fight with a great ship which was admirall of the Spanish flæte, in which ship he thought by reason of certaine likely coniectures the duke of Medina to be, considering also the said ship was so well accompanied by others. The fight with hir continued so long and so hot, that diuers other ships, yea the most part of the Spanish flæte came to her succour.

As appeereth  
in the 2. table.

In the mean season the Viceadmirall sir Francis Drake, with master Iohn Hawkins, and master Martin Frobisher fought with a Galeon of Portugall, wherein they thought Don Martin de Ricaldes the Viceadmirall to be.

As appeereth  
in the 3. table.

This fight was so well maintained for the time it continued, that the enemie was enforced to leane his place, and to giue waie gathering toward the East. In the which point of remouing, a great Galeon wherein Don Pedro de Valdes went as captaine, falling foule with another ship of their flæte was depriued of hir foremost, so that she could not follow the bodie of the flæte that forsooke her, to the great maruel of the English men themselves, whereby Don Pedro became prisoner, as afterward shall be declared.

As appeereth  
in the 4. table.

Furthermoze also there was at this time a great ship of Wiscaie about 800. tunne in burthen, that was spoiled by fire vpon this occasion : The captaine of the soldiors that went in her hauing small regard (as is reported) of an orderly and ciuill life, did insolently beat a certaine Flemish gunner : what cause he had I know not, whether vpon occasion of words touching his charge, or by meanes of the gunners wife, whom he had abused according to the custome of that nation. Whereupon the perplered man seeing himselfe among such a kind of people, as not onely made him serue their turnes at their owne pleasure, but disgraced him

him in as vile manner as if he were a slave, despairing both of life, wife, and his young daughter, and perchance rather moved with the dishonour of them then by his owne misfortunes, (which minde is many times in men even of meane condition) he set himselfe on fire in a barrell of gunpowder, procuring thereby through the losse of his owne life, and the extreme hazard of those that belonged unto him, & the losse of many mens liues besides, a cruell reuenge of his injuries receiued by one onely man. This example may serue to instruct such as command ouer others, how they ought to behaue themselves with lesse insolencie: inasmuch as the minde of man is alwaies readie to reuenge, after the custome of this our bloodie age, if he be not bozne utterly void of a quicke wit and liuely spirit.

Through this mischance of theirs all the upper decks were blowne vp, all hir furniture marred, and much other spoile done, besides the death and maiming of her men, so that being utterly vnable all that night to helpe her selfe, she was succored by the galliasses, and for the time saued in the bodie of their fleet.

But to returne vnto our purpose. This first skirmish continued not aboue two houres, because the L. Admirall considering that he wanted as yet 40. ships which could not so readily come forth of the haven, thought he should do better seruice if he staied their comming before he proceeded any further, beating behinde vpon the enimie, least he should bring the rest too much in hazard, and therefore he thought it not profitable too much to embolden and pricke those forward that he had with him in a matter that was not greatly conuenient, either for the honoꝛ of the Realme, or his owne person, neither did the militarie discipline of the English nation purchased by long experience at the sea giue him leaue to do it. And therefore he put forth his flagge to call the other captaines to counsell, who agreeing vnto his determination, receiued instructions concerning the order that they were to keepe in following the Spanish fleet.

## The inuasion of England

flēte. Then hauing giuen libertie to euery man to returne to their charge, he gaue order likewise to his Viceadmirall sir Francis Drake to appoint the watch for that night, and to beare out the light.

The same night the Spanish flēte lay about 14. miles off from the Stert. The next day following early in the morning it was vnder the winde not so far off as Berie.

As appeereth  
in the 4. table.

In the mean time the English flēte wanting light, because the Viceadmirall sir Francis Drake leauing his place to follow 5. hulkes which were discovered in the euening very late, it came to passe that all the other ships staid behinde, not knowing that they were to follow, or whither to direct themselves: so that there might haue followed some great inconuenience had they had to do with an enemy more practized in our seas. But as it seemed by report, the said Viceadmirall was moued to do this by means of a certaine curious diligence and a militarie suspicion, growing in his mind vpon certaine and very probable conjectures, grounded on circumstances of matter considered in his mind: and therefore he gaue them the chase, thinking that they had been enemies.

But being ouertaken and their officers examined, and being knowen to be friends, or at the least wise not enemies, he permitted them to go their way, returning himselfe vnto the flēte the day following.

As appeereth  
in the 4. table.

The L. Admirall notwithstanding accompanied with the Beare and the Parie Rose comming a little behind his sterne, by reason of the cleerenes of the aire (which at that time of the yere is ordinarily very great through out all England) followed the enemy all that night within a Culuerin shot. By occasion whereof the rest of the flēte was cast so far behind, that the morning after the nearest part thereof could hardly descrie the tops of the other ships, and many of them were cleane out of sight, so that with all the force of their sailes they could hardly come all together the whole day following untill the euening.

As appeereth  
in the 5. table.

The



The next day the Viceadmirall sir Francis Drake being in the *Quenes* ship called the *Revenge*, hauing also the *Roebucke* and a *Pinnesse* or two in his company, toke Don Pedro de Valdes, who as was said before, had lost the foremast of his ship: and hauing receiued the said Valdes as his prisoner, and certaine other gentlemen of most account that were therein, he sent the ship together with the prisoners vnto Dartmouth, vnder the conduct of the *Roebucke*, and he himselfe made toward the *L. Admirall*, vnder whose lee he came that night.

The same daie being the 22. of the moneth, a little before the Viceadmirall sir Francis Drake was returned vnto the fleet, the Spaniards forsooke the ship which the day before was spoiled by fire. To the which ship the *L. Admirall* sent the *L. Thomas Howard*, and with him *W. John Hawkins*, who being in the cockboate of the *Vicetorie* went a board her, and there found a lamentable sight. For all the vppermost decks of her being torne and spoiled by the fire, there were in her 50. men miserablie burnt with the powder. The sinke in her was so great, and the ship it selfe so filthie, that the *L. Howard* departed presently from her: and returning with *W. John Hawkins* to the *L. Admirall*, they informed him of that they found and saw there. For which cause there was presently commandement giuen, that the little pinnesse of captain *Fleming* should conduct her vnto some port of England, where they might most commodiously helpe themselves. Whereupon it was carried to *Weymouth* the next day following. For al the mishap that befell this ship, they vnderstood that the Spaniards had taken out of her al the best things that they could, casting off the bulke of her together with certaine grosse stuffe therein, as for that time altogether vnprofitable.

About this time her Maestie seeing that all hope of peace was frustrate, called home againe her Commissioners from *Flanders*, who were by the Duke of Parma most cur-

teously dismissed, very honorable accompanied, and themselves and their cariages safe conducted to the marches of Calis, which way they tooke their iourney.

But to the matter: the night last before mentioned there befell a great calme, and therevpon 4. Spanish Galliaffes senered themselves from the rest of their flecte. This thing made the Englishmen to doubt that that night they had resolved to giue the onset vpon some of their lesser ships, imagining that they might annoy them: the rather for that they were the rearward of the flecte. But afterwards the Galliaffes (whatsoeuer the occasion was) enterprised nothing, either for that they saw they could not safely do it, or else bicause their mindes were not thoroughly settled vpon that which before they thought to do: a thing many times failing out in such persons as are but poze in counsell and resolution, that they continue in their perplered conceites without any effect or commoditie ensuing thereof.

As appeereth  
in the 5. table.

The morning following being Tuesday the 23. of the moneth, the wind was at North East, wherupon the Spaniards came backe vpon the Englishmen with the aduantage of the wind, directing their course toward the land: the which course was not profitable for the Englishmen. Wherefore to take the aduantage of the Enemie, they cast about toward the west with a reasonable compasse, their ships being very good both of saile and sturage, that they might bring about their purpose. Now the Spaniards to hinder their intent, after they perceiued it, offered to come nere aboard to fight with them, trusting in the huge greatness and height of their ships. The which offer of theirs the English men refused not, but began presently to bring themselves into battell aray, which the enemie perceiuing he also did the like.

As appeereth  
in the 5. table.

In this case the Arke, the Lyon, the Beare, the Elizabeth Jonas, the Victorie and certaine other ships were content to follow the ship called the *Non Pariglia*.

In the mean season the Triumphe with other 5. ships  
of



of London, namely the Merchant Kioall, the Centurion, the Margerie Joan, the Marie Rose, and the Golden Lion were so far to the rearward, and so far seuered from the rest of the fleet, that the Galliasles undertooke to giue them an hard assault. But they were well intertained by the ships for the space of an houer and an halfe, vntill at the length some of the Quéenes ships, comming to succor the Triumph and the Londoners, dealt so well in the matter, that the Galliasles were driuen to retire. The wind came about at this present to the South east, and afterwards to the South west and by south, at which time a certaine number of Squadron of the Quéenes together with other Merchants ships gaue assault vnto the Spanish fleet, and that so furiously to the westward of them, that the Spaniards were all enforced to giue them waie: For which cause the Lord Admirall considering both the discommoditie and danger, whereinto the Triumph and the other five ships were come, he called other of the Quéenes ships that were not far off, and gaue them streight commandement to follow him, and to charge the enemies which were to the westward with all their force: giuing further order to them all, not to discharge any one peece of ordinance befoze they should come within a musket shot of the enemy, in as much as that was the onely way to succour the ships of their friends with the greater damage of the enemy. This was well perfozmed by the Arke, the Elizabeth Jonas, the Galeon Leicester, the Golden Lyon, the Victorie, the Marie Rose, the Dread-nought, and the Swallow. Which thing the duke of Medina perceiuing, he also came forth with 16. of his best Galeons, to hinder and impeach the Englishmen in the defence of the Triumph, seeming in this case to pretend, that the reason of the fight did so require; whereas the regard of his honor did no lesse inforce him vnto it: because it seemed vncouenient that he should in euery thing be inferior to the Englishmen: and therefore he made large promises vnto those by whose meanes the

As appeereth  
in the 6. table.

As appeereth  
in the 6. table.

victorie

victorie should be gotten. Howbeit that fell out in the ende that was preferred by the starres, that is, that the successe of the conflict falling out on his side as hardlie as in such a case might be, the Spaniards in the ende were enforced to giue place and to retire vnto their array of battell. In this conflict one William Cocks captaine of a little pinnaesse called the Violet, belonging vnto sir William Winter, behaued himselfe very valiantly against the enemye in the greatest heate of this encounter: but within a little while after, he lost his delight wherewith he was not very well acquainted, and his life by a great peece of ordinance, fortune not being correspondently fauorable vnto his courage, which therefore was no whit profitable to the perfection of his purpose.

As appeareth  
in the 6. table.

Toward the euening 4. or 5. Spanish ships came out from the rest of the fleet from the south eastward, against whom certaine of the English ships came, and namely the Gaie flower of London, which discharged certaine peeces vpon the enemye with a very honorable declaration of the Marine discipline, and being accompanied by other ships that were there found they all behaued themselves no lesse diligently (which thing was not at the first hoped for) shewing their desire tempered with a wish of other company. The conflict continued from the morning vnto the euening, the L. Admirall being at all times ready and vigilant in all aduentures that might fall out: And thereupon he was sometimes moze, and sometimes lesse eger in the conflict as necessity required, giuing thereby euident example how others should behaue themselves. It might well be said that for the time it was not possible to see befoze this battell in this sea so hard a conflict, nor so terrible a spoile of ships, by reason of the pellets that flew so thicke euerie way: to conclude, there was neuer scene so vehement a fight, either side indenoring throught an headstrong and deadly hatred the others spoile and destruction. For albeit the musquettiers and harquebusiers were in either fleet many

many in number, yet could they not be discerned or heard, by reason of the more violent and roaring shot of the greater ordinance, that followed so thicke one vpon another, and plaied so well that day on either side, that they were thought to be equall in number to common harquebusiers in an hot skirmish. The battell was not onely long, but also nere at hand within halfe a musket shot, and that to the great aduantage of the Englishmen, who with their ships, being (as was aforesaid) excellent of saile and stirage, yet lesse a great deale then the Spanish ships, and therfore more light and nimble, fought not at all, according to their maner otherwise, to bowd them, but keeping themselves aloofe at a reasonable distance, continually beate vpon the hull and tacklings of their enemies ships, which being a great deale higher could not so conveniently beat the English ships with their ordinance. This long conflict being finished and euery one retiring vnto his part, the next daie following (which was Wednesday the 24. of the moneth) was passed without any thing done, because by reason of the fight that day before there was spent a great quantitie of powder and shot: whereupon the L. Admirall sent diuers barkes and pinnelles to the shoze for a new supplie of such munition. For her Maiestie prudently foresawing ech thing necessary for her men, ordained that there should be sufficient prouision made, according as should be needfull, aswell of victuals as of munition. It seemed moreover that daie that the Spanish fleet was nothing grieved with that daies respite, but were all of them indifferently glad of that breauing, inasmuch as thereby they had good oportunitie to looke to their leaks, whereof no doubt they had a great number, for they had carried away many shewd stripes from their enemies, their hurts being of great likelihood so much the more in that the Spaniards were pend by in a narrow rime. This day the L. Admirall for certaine conuenient reasons, deuised the whole body of the fleet into fower squadrons, by meanes of which diuision the enemy might  
be

As appeareth  
in the 6. table.

be greatly and moze continually troubled. The first Squadron he kept for himselfe: the second he assigned vnto sir Francis Drake his Viceadmirall: the third to M<sup>r</sup>. Iohn Hawkins: the fourth to M<sup>r</sup>. Martin Frobisher, and after none he gaue order, that in the night fire of the merchants ships in ech Squadron (for that as they were of sundry parts of the Realme, so they were equally diuided into ech Squadron) should charge the Spanish flecte in as many parts at one and the same time, that at midnight the enimie might be kept occupied. This order taken (as it was verie likelie) might haue had as good effect as it was wisely giuen: but by reason of a great calme which fell out, no part of this aduiseement could be accomplished, fortune interrupting good counsell.

As appeereth  
in the 7. table.

The next day being the 25. of the moneth and Saint James his day, there was a great Spanish Gallion left behind her companie to the South ward nere to the Squadron of Master Iohn Hawkins: so that the barkes belonging vnto the greater ships, were within Musket shot of hir. By reason hereof 3. of the Galliaffes and another ship that was in maner of a Gallion and well appointed, came from the Spanish flecte to succor this Gallion. Against whom went out the L. Admirall in the Arke and the L. Thomas Howard in the golden Lion, and dzeu so nere being towed by their boats, that they did them much harne, whereby one of them requiring the helpe of the rest, being succored by them returned vnto the flecte: And from another, by means of a shot comming from the Arke, there was taken away her light and thowen into the Sea; the third lost hir becke. Whereby these 2. ships the Arke and the golden Lion declared this day to each flecte, that they had most diligent and faithfull Cunniers, desirous aswell of the common good, as of the private honor of their leaders the Lord Admirall and the L. Thomas Howard which went in them: which commendation might rightly be imparted with them concerning this happie euent, bicause the calme was

was so great, that albeit the two fleets were well able to behold the fortune of each of their friends, yet notwithstanding they could not helpe them at all : at the length the winde beginning somewhat to arise, the Spaniards took the opportunitie thereof, and put themselves forward to helpe those of their side, and succoured them honorably. After this time the Gallies in whose puissance the greatest hope of the Spanish fleet was founded, were neuer scene to fight any more, such was their intertainment that daie.

The two fleets notwithstanding approaching nigh one vnto another began a conflict, but they continued it but a while, except one ship called the *Don Pariglia*, & another called the *Marie Rose*, which hauing taken in their top-sailes staid themselves there, to make as it were a certain experience of their manhood vpon the Spanish fleet, behauing themselves honorably for a season. In which time, the *Triumph* being to the northward of the Spanish fleet, was so far off, that doubting that certaine of the Spanish ships would assault her to the windward, they succoured her with diuers boates that got the winde easilie : for the *Beare* and the *Elizabeth Jonas* euen at one instant hauing knowledge of the danger wherein the other were, drew nere vnto them, desiring both in regard of the honor of their common wealth, and also for the preservation of their friends and countrymen, to be partakers of the like danger and difficultie.

As appeereth  
in the 7. table.

Whereupon each ship doing her dutie they iointly saued the *Triumph* from all harme, and recovered the winde. And thus this daies worke ended: whereof I may say, that the conflict was no whit shorter then the day it selfe.

At this present the Englishmen considering the great wast of powder and shot that had heretofore been made, the *L. Admirall* determined not to assault the enemy any more, vntill he were come nigh vnto *Douer*, in which place he knew he should find the fleet vnder the charge of the *L.*

Seymer, and sir William Winter, who were ready to ioin with him, that thereby he might both fortifie himselfe with a greater number of ships, and in this maner prouide them selues of munition from that part of the Realme. Upon friday therefore being the 26. of the moneth ceasing from fighting, the L. Admirall (aswell for their god deserts and honozable seruice, as also to encourage others to like valoz) was desirous to aduance certaine personages to the degree of knight hood, for that behauing themselves manfully as well with their ships as their god aduise, they were worthy that degree of honoz: and so much the more worthy in that being farre separated from all courtly fauour, which many times imparteth the chiefeest honoz vnto the least deseruing men, they declared their valoz in the eyes of either flæte.

As appeereth  
in the 8. table.

Therefore the two Lords, viz. the L. Howard, and the L. Sheffield: Roger Townsend, Iohn Hawkins and Martin Frobisher were called forth, and the order of knight hode giuen them by the L. Admirall as their generall.

This day there came to the seruice of her Maiestie in her flæte diuers Gentlemen, honozable both by blood and place, but much more in respect of their courage and vertue, for that in these publike affaires and so necessary seruice of the wars, they willingly offered their seruice in the defence of their countrey and honoz of her maiestie.

This day also and the next being the 27. the Spaniards folloved their course quietly before the English flæte. In which time the C. of Suffex, the L. Buckhurst, sir George Carie knight, and the captaines of the fortes and castels thereabout, sent their men with powder, shot and viduals, to the L. Admirall to assist and helpe the armie. The same Satturday towarde the euening the Spaniards drew nigh to Calis vnder the coast of Picardie, and there sodenly cast anker almost right against the left hand of the hauen to the westward, a little lesse then five miles from Calis cleues. The English flæte also cast anker within a culuerin shot of the

As appeereth  
in the 9. table.



the enemy to the westward.

In the meane season the L. Seymer and sir William Winter joined with the L. Admirall, wherby the English fleet increased to the number of 140. ships of all sorts. But the Spaniards with all speed sent tidings unto the duke of Parma of their arrivall, who at this present was at Bruges, who having retained with him all his seafaring men many daies before to this purpose, yet proceeded no farther in the matter for that time, although for such time as the king had limited him, he for his part took as much care as might be looked for at his hands. For having already embarked a certaine number of his soldiers, he was carefull in like maner to dispatch the rest as soon as they should be ready, that they might take oportunitie to come forth, furnishing them abundantly with victuall and munition. But in the meane time such a chance fell out as made frustrate not onely his, but the conceits also of the duke of Medina, and wholie overthrow their enterprise, in that her Maestie was not a little carefull and troubled in minde concerning the successe of these affaires, albeit she her selfe had committed her whole fortune into the hands of almighty God.

Whereover also the L. Admirall having by certaine notice understood, that the duke of Parma had prepared a great number of tunnes of water, and ten thousand chosen souldiers to be embarked for the topning with the fleet, which could not be avoided if the duke of Medina were not compelled to avoid that place, knowing also the evident perill that was to be feared, if the Spanish fleet should be suffered to refresh it selfe, and to be furnished with so many soldiers, he applied his wits so in the deliberation of these matters of waight and importance, having the consent of others more practised, that no time might be lost for the furtherance of this service: and for so much as the forces of the enemy were not yet united and joined together, therefore the 28. of this moneth at midnight he provided eight

As appeereth  
in the 9. table.

small ships dressed with artificial fire, to the intent to drine the same vpon the Spanish floete. This thing was diligently and effectually brought to passe vnder the charge of captaine Yoong and captaine Prewse, two baliant and couragious men. By reason hercof the enimie was not onely enforced to breake his floete, but the fire comming so suddenly vpon him (not remembzing himselfe at the verie instant time of any other remedy, either moze safe for himselfe, or moze erculable) to cut his cables, to let slip his ankers, and to hoyle vp sailes as the onely way to saue his floete from so imminent and vnerpected a mischiefe. Furthermoze by meanes of this tumult and confusion (which in truth was very great) the chiefe Galliasse fell soule with another ship, vpon the cable of whose anker her sterne was set so fast, that they could not loose her al the night long, so that the next day following she was enforced with her oares to make toward the land, and to draw nigh to the hauens mouth of Calis, to saue hirselle in that place: but not knowing that water, and hauing no profitable and conuenient counsell for the time, she fell vpon a helse. This thing being in good time espied by the L. Admirall, he sent thither his greatest boate vnder the charge of Amieus Preston his lieutenant, and together with him Thomas Gerard and B. Harue two of her maiesties Gentlemen and seruants, and others of the court, and of his own seruants, who fought with her, but vnequally, for that the ship being graueled could with her force pzeuaile but little. In this confid it chanced that a musket shot stroke Hugo de Menacada chiefe captaine of the Galliasse, a noble and baliant man, in the head. The which mishap ioined with the difficultie of stirring themselues in their defence, bred such a despaire in euery man, that the greater sort lept into the water to saue themselues by swimming into the haven, although many of them perished in the water. By this disorder of the enimy, the Englishmen being moze secure, toke her and lacked her to their great commoditie, aboute

As appeereth  
in the 10. table.



an hundred men being entred into her, and their company increasing more and more.

Whereupon Monsieur Gordon gouernoꝝ of Calis, a man of good estimation in respect of his prerogative in that place, sent his nephew to giue the Englishmen to vnderstand, that they should content themselves with the ordinarie spoile, and that they should leaue behind them the great ordinance, as a thing belonging vnto him by vertue of his office. The which embassage sent the second time vnto men more intentiue vnto their pray then other mens reason, made the Gentleman to be euilly intertained by our men, in such sort, that they would haue forcibly taken from him some trifeling things about him, thinking him to be a Spaniard. Whereat M. Gordon being offended, caused certaine pieces of ordinance to be discharged from the Tolone, and then the Englishmen departed, leauing the Calliasse at his pleasure after the losse of some soldiers, hauing notwithstanding sacked 22000. duckets of gold, appertaining vnto the king, and 14. coffers of moueables of the duke of Medina, with some other both money and moueables of other particular men, and some prisoners, among whom was Don Roderigo of Pendoza, and Don John Gouzales de Solerzauo vnder captaine of the Calliasse.

During the time of surprizing of which Calliasse, sir Francis Drake Viceadmirall being in the ship called the Revenge, accompanied with Tho. Fenner captaine of the Don Pariglia, with the rest of that Squadron, set vpon the Spanish fleet, giving them an hot charge. Within a while after sir John Hawkins in the Victorie accompanied with Edward Fenton captain of the Marie Rose, with George Beeston captain in the Dread-nought, and Richard Hawkins in the Swallow, with the rest of that Squadron, put themselves forward and brake through the midst of the Spanish fleet, where there began a vehement conflict continuing all the morning, wherein euery captaine did verie honorable

As appeereth  
in the 10. table.

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honoꝛable seruice: among the rest captain Beeston deserued special praise. Unto this sight came the L. Admirall accompanied with the Earle of Cumberland, the L. Thomas Howard, the L. Sheffelde, and in that place where the fight was made, and the victoꝝ was gotten, they were publike-ly commended, that of their owne accord had made the we of the fruits answerable to the hope before conceiued of them. Not far from this place there was a great Spanish galeon sen, which was set vps on the one side by the Earle of Cumberland and George Ryman in the Bonaduensure, and on the other side by the L. Seymer, in the ship called the Raynbowe, and sir William Winter in the Plant-gard, yet she saued her selfe valiantly, gathering into the body of the flecte, although with ill successe: for she was so beaten and so terribly rent and toꝝne with our great ordi-nance, that the night following in the sight of her owne flecte, she sunke, her men, as is thought, being saued. After this captaine Fenton in the Marie Rose, and a Spanish Galeon met together, being east and west one of another, yet no nigher then that their shot might plaie safelie, and flie betwā them without any great hurt. Captaine Fenton notwithstanding and those that were with him, were woꝛthilie commended for their seruice begun and accom-plished with such prosperous boldnes. The same day the deēdes of sir Robert Southwell were evidently seene: for being a man boꝝne to vertue and commendation, and desirous to purchase honoꝛ, to the end that he might not make frustrate the iudgement of his Soueraigne, who before time had made him knight, diuining how much in time to come he would further the profite of the common wealth of England, he enforced himselfe not onely to satisfie either in counsel or paines the publike intent, but also the priuate commoditie of the L. Admirall his father in lawe, in that he had dutifullly promised him sure and faithfull seruice, wherupon for the same he receiued condigne praise of euery man. Ther was also particularly praised Robert Crosse captaine,

As appeereth  
in the 10. ta-  
ble.

captaine, who in the ship called the Hope, gaue a signe of fruite to be looked for in him, not inferior vnto that which the ship wherein he went did by the name it caried, cause vs to hope for.

It fell out also the same day, that the L. Henrie Seimer and sir William Winter did so thoroughly beate two Spanish Gallies, although they were of the chiefeft of them and the best prouided, that they were enforced to withdraw themselves to the coast of Flanders, where forsomuch as they were in a very euill taking, as well in respect of the murder of their men, as the manifold leakes of their ships, they were surprised, and without fight rifeled by the Zelanders, and with all the men in them caried as prisoners vnto Flushing. Among these, the chiefeft was Don Diego Pimentello, a man very famous among his country people.

It seemeth hereby that we may with reason gather, that in these conflicts many of the Spanish ships perished, albeit that most men thinke that few of them miscaried. After this battell which was made the 29. of the moneth, the L. Admirall the 30. day ordained, that the L. Seimer and sir W. Winter should returne with their fleet vnto their appointed office in the chanell, which was to keepe the coast from the danger that the duke of Parma seemed to threaten. The which duke had already lost the opportunitie of being able to do any thing for the accomplishing of the common intention of the Spaniards, or according to the instructions receiued from the Spanish king whatsoeuer they were: Because the sudden and vnlooked for departure of the duke of Medina with the whole fleet from the coast of Calice, and his small aboade vpon any other coast, caused the whole care of the aforesaid duke that he toke vpon the maine land, to become voide, so that he did not imbarke the rest of his men to ioine with the duke of Medina.

The Lord Admirall therefore determined to follow the Spanish

As appeereth  
in the 11. tabl.

Spanish flæte onely so long vntill they might be shot vp to the Northward, whither the Spanish flæte directed hir course, but to what end it was not knowen. And that he with the same winde might come to the Fyeth, which is vpon the coast of Scotland, if so be that he saw the enimie passe those parts. Whereupon he thought mozeouer, that it was good to stay his flæte from attempting ought vpon the Spaniard, vntill he should haue good intelligence of their purpose, thereby to worke a meane vtterly to disperse and otherthrow them. But the Spaniards kept their course about the Ilands of Orkney, declaring thereby, that they minded to returne that way into Spaine along by the North coast of Scotland, which as skilfull men coniectured, would be to their euident danger, as it fell out afterward. Perceiuing therefore the purpose of the enimie, when he was shot by 55. deg. 13. min. to the Northward, and 30. leagues of from Newcastle, the L. Admirall resolved with himselfe to let the Spanish flæte kepe on hir way: Albeit at the first he was minded to giue them a strong assault vpon the second of August: but perswaded otherwise by a moze safe aduise and counsell, he wisely staied himselfe from that action, leaving the euent that should inue vnto fortune, who might worke some farther matter vpon them: seeing the enimie had taken that way to saue himselfe. Mozeouer, he considered the scarcitie of munition, wherof at that present he had but little, and that vpon this occasion, for that the ships that lay on the coast appointed by order from hir Maiestie to carrie such provision, knew not where to finde our flæte in time conuenient.

The Spanish flæte therefore, as for hir owne welfare it was requisite, hauing gon on so far befoze, the L. Admirall resolved to put into the Fyeth in Scotland, as well to refresh himselfe with new victuals, as also to dispatch certaine other matters which he thought necessarie. But the winde being much westward and against him, the day following

As appeereth  
in the II. table.

lowing he changed his course, and returned into England with his whole flæte the 7. of August, although by reason of a tempest which befell them, part of the ships put into Dover, part to Harwich, the rest into Parnmouth.

Whitherto I haue described, according to the instructions and direction which I receiued of those things that fell out betwæne the Englishmen and the Spaniards, adioining thereunto such particular discourses as I thought to be necessarie, and such ornaments of speech as the matter and the Italian tongue did specially require: Now therefore it remaineth for the finishing of our former discourse, briefly and euidently to set downe the issue of all the things before mentioned.

**T**he Spanish flæte passing (as aforesaid) into those seas, which for the most part are quiet and calme inough, whether it were giuen too and fro in them with contrarie winds, or by some other fatall accident that fell out, it continued therein tossed vp and downe untill the ende of September, with fearefull successe and deadlie shipwracke along the whole coast of Ireland: so that the duke of Medina Sidonia was enforced to leaue there behind him about the number of 17. good ships, besides those 15. that were thought to be lost in the monethes of Iulie and August, and so to returne into Spaine.

As appeereth  
in the 11. table.

The persons lost in Ireland were esteemed to be about 5500. So that all being accounted together, it is certainlie auouched, that al the ships that were lost amount vnto the number of 32. and the men accounted one with another arise to the number of 13500. or more. The prisoners also of all sorts in England, Ireland, & the low Countries arise to the number of 2000. and more. As for the losse of the ordnance, & the common or priuate treasure, or whether the duke after he was preserved from the former fearefull and mortall dangers lost any more ships, or no, or last of all, how many he brought home with him againe into Spaine,

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I meane not to occupie or trouble my pen with any such superfluous curiosities, being willing to leaue that matter vnto such as haue receiued certaine tidings therof: because I studie (so farre forth as is possible) for breuitie without procuring vnto any man either hatred or euill report.

And therefore to knit vp this present treatise, this is reported, that after her Maiestie was thoroughly assured of the returne of the duke into Spain, and that her seas were cleere and free from al her enuies, and hauing called home the L. Seymer with his state, it seemed good vnto her (as a conuenient thing) that her people should render vnto almighty God as great thanks as might be, for that it had pleased him thus to work and bring about the deliuerance of them all. And therefore the 19. of Nouember, by publicke edict and order from her Maiestie, there was generally made throughout the whole Realme, a most frequent assemblie of all sorts of people publickly to giue thanks vnto God all the day long, for so singular a benefit receiued, with this intention, that the remembrance of the said benefit, should vpon the same day of euery yere to ensue, be renewed in the minde and eies of all men throughout the whole nation, with an euident and religious acknowledgment, that the common safetie of them all was accomplished by the speciall fauor of God, the father of all good things.

Her Maiestie also being afterwards desirous to do the like in her owne behalfe (as it was conuenient) came into Paules Church in London on Sunday being the 24. of the same moneth, with a most decent order and assemblies of al the Magistrates and companies of the Citie standing in a ranke in the street, replenished most abundantly with people, through which her Maiestie was to passe, being accompanied with such a princely traine of all those that had bene instruments of that notable victorie, that it seemed her Maiestie together with the rest, hauing gotten the victorie, was desirous in triumphing maner to shew her thankfull

thankfull minde vnto the Londoners also, for the charges  
and paines they had vnderaken all the yere befoze, in  
the service of the Crowne and the common-wealth, toge-  
ther with the increase of their owne reputation, being ac-  
counted the foundation and cheefe staie of all the other  
parts of the Realme. Wherein her Maiestie followed the  
example of diuers kings her predecessors, who vpon special  
fauors, according as good occasions moued them thereunto,  
haue giuen many large priuiledges and liberties vnto the  
said Citie, which at this day is doubtlesse more popu-  
lous, more wealthie, more mightie, and  
more free, then euer it was  
heretofore.

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